



November 14, 2017

Dear Arkansas Art Educator,

Governor Hutchinson and I are very proud to announce the **2018 Governor's Young Artist Exhibit Competition!**

In conjunction with the Governor's Mansion Association, we are once again hosting a statewide juried exhibition for Arkansas' talented high school artists. Beginning January 1, 2018, high school students from across Arkansas are invited to submit online their drawings, paintings, prints and mixed media assemblages in conjunction with the chosen artist theme outlined below. The collective goal of the exhibition is to inspire our state's young artists by providing them with a platform for their work, which will be displayed at the Governor's Mansion during April 2018. Prizes will be awarded at the 2018 Awards Reception to be hosted at the Governor's Mansion on **Saturday, April 28, 2018.**

All the important submission deadlines and other information are outlined below. We appreciate your help in disseminating our contest information to your peers and look forward to receiving wonderful works of art from our state's bright and talented young artists.

Sincerely,

Susan Hutchinson  
First Lady of Arkansas

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### **Eligibility:**

All public, private, charter and home-schooled high school students (Grades 9-12) who reside in Arkansas are eligible.

### **2018 Competition's Theme: Natural Wonders**

Our 2018 theme, "Natural Wonders," welcomes artwork that is inspired by nature, music, science, natural products, resources and environments. "Natural Wonders" can be interpreted quite widely, bringing together a broad range of elements and ideas. Art submissions should be

more than a simple landscape. They should communicate a real message and purpose, as well as provoke an emotion. As you begin evaluating the subject matter for your art submissions, please consider the following questions related to our 2018 theme, "Natural Wonders."

- What celebrates our Natural State and our World?
- How do you interpret your surroundings?
- What is strange or surprising? What fills us with amazement or awe?

### **Submission Requirements:**

- Artwork must be submitted by a high school teacher or representative
- Each high school teacher/representative may submit up to 15 pieces of artwork. Please note that this is a juried show. Entries are NOT guaranteed acceptance.
- There are NO fees associated with submission
- ANY piece created by students at any time during their high school education may be submitted. However, reproductions are NOT allowed.
- Photograph entries (8X10 minimum) are limited to 5 photos per student.

### **Media Specifications:**

- Work must not exceed 40 inches wide by 40 inches high.
- Minimum size is 11 X 14.
- Work must be physical, tangible, and available to be displayed for the duration of the exhibition. All winning submissions must be ready to hang for a professional gallery. No tape with wire or string will be allowed. Pastel and charcoal drawings must be sprayed with fixative.

### **How to Submit Artwork:**

Each artwork submission must be uploaded online, using the following link:

<https://form.jotform.com/70814952764161>. You will use this link for **EACH individual** piece of artwork submitted. Please keep the images free of identifying information (artist name, etc.) as this information will require cropping of the image. **ENTRIES ARE ONLY ACCEPTED THROUGH THIS LINK.** The link is also available at our website: **[www.friendsofthemansion.org](http://www.friendsofthemansion.org)**.

**Entries MUST be UPLOADED no later than 6 p.m., February 21, 2018.**

### **Important Dates:**

**\*February 21, 2018 - DEADLINE** for uploaded submissions to:

<https://form.jotform.com/70814952764161>

**\*Week of March 5, 2018** - Teachers/schools will be notified if submissions are selected for exhibition.

**\*March 29, 2018 – DEADLINE** for selected works (gallery ready) to be delivered to Mansion.

**\*April 3, 2018** - The student exhibition begins.

**\*April 28, 2018** - Awards Reception/Recognition ceremony at the Governor's Mansion.

**For more information, contact Sharon Morris at:**  
**[sharon.morris@governor.arkansas.gov](mailto:sharon.morris@governor.arkansas.gov), or 501-324-9805**